

REMARKS

In the Office Action dated November 25, 2005, pending claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,002,608 to Zwicky (“Zwicky”). Further, pending claims 12 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 2,252,571 to Kohn (“Kohn”). Applicant appreciates the Examiner’s indication that claims 1, 3, 5-7, 15 and 17-20 are allowed and claims 10 and 11 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Interview Summary

In anticipation of the Examiner’s request for an interview summary, and in accordance with MPEP § 713.04, the following is a written record of the telephonic interview of March 24, 2006. The Examiner and the Applicant’s attorney discussed independent claim 8 in light of Zwicky and independent claim 12 in light of Kohn. The Examiner continued to maintain her rejections of claims 8 and 12. Accordingly, Applicant’s attorney submits the following claim amendments and respectfully request indication that all pending claims are allowable over the prior art references of record.

35 U.S.C. §102

Pending claim 8 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Zwicky. However, the Examiner indicated that dependent claim 10 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, Applicant cancels claim 10 and adds the limitations thereof to the intervening base claim 8. Applicant, therefore,

respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 8 and respectfully requests indication that claim 8 is allowable. As claim 11 depends directly from claim 8, Applicant likewise respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection of claim 11 and respectfully requests indication that claim 11 is allowable.

Finally, pending claims 12 and 14 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Kohn. Applicant cancels claims 12 and 14 without prejudice. Accordingly, this rejection is now moot.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner withdraw the rejections and indicate the pending claims as allowable. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this case, the Examiner is encouraged to call undersigned counsel at her convenience.

Respectfully submitted,

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